



Church of St. John the Evangelist

*Elora, Ontario
Diocese of Niagara*

*January 28, 2024
11:00 am*

*Fourth Sunday after Epiphany
Septuagesima*

11:00 am Choral Mattins (BCP)

Welcome to St. John's Elora.

Hearing Assist devices, hymn books and prayer books and children's activity packs are available from the Greeters at the back of the church.

St. John's church sits on the traditional unceded territories of the Attawandaron, Mississauga, and Haudenosaunee First Nations. These lands are covered by the Between the Lakes Treaty and the Haldimand land grant. These lands are also part of The Dish With One Spoon Treaty; all subsequent newcomers have been invited into this treaty in the spirit of peace, friendship and respect. Today this land is home to many diverse Inuit, Metis and First Nations peoples.

Processional Hymn 560 God, Whose Almighty Word

Moscow

*1. God, whose almighty Word
chaos and darkness heard, and took their flight;
hear us, we humbly pray,
and where the gospel day
sheds not its glorious ray, let there be light!*

*3. Spirit of truth and love, lifegiving holy Dove,
speed on your flight!
Move on the water's face bearing the lamp of
grace,
and in earth's darkest place let there be light!*

*2. Saviour, who came to bring
on your redeeming wing healing and sight,
health to the sick in mind, sight to the inly blind:
now for all humankind let there be light!*

*4. Gracious and holy Three, glorious Trinity,
wisdom, love, might, boundless as ocean's tide
rolling in fullest pride:
through the world far and wide let there be light!*

"The earth shall be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea."

- Habakkuk 2:4

Minister: Dearly beloved, the Scripture moveth us in sundry places to acknowledge and confess our manifold sins and wickedness; and that we should not dissemble nor cloke them before the face of Almighty God our heavenly Father; but confess them with an humble, lowly, penitent, and obedient heart; to the end that we may obtain forgiveness of the same, by his infinite goodness and mercy.

And although we ought at all times humbly to acknowledge our sins before God; yet ought we most chiefly so to do, when we assemble and meet together to render thanks for the great benefits that we have received at his hands, to set forth his most worthy praise, to hear his most holy Word, and to ask those things which are requisite and necessary, as well for the body as the soul.

Wherefore I pray and beseech you, as many as are here present, to accompany me with a pure heart and humble voice unto the throne of the heavenly grace.

(you may kneel or sit for prayer)

Minister: ALMIGHTY and most merciful Father,

All: **We have erred and strayed from thy ways like lost sheep, we have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts, we have offended against thy holy laws, we have left undone those things which we ought to have done, and we have done those things which we ought not to have done; and there is no health in us. But thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us, miserable offenders. Spare thou them, O God, which confess their faults. Restore thou them that are penitent; according to thy promises declared unto humankind in Christ Jesu our Lord. And grant, O most merciful Father, for his sake, that we may hereafter live a godly, righteous, and sober life, to the glory of thy holy Name. Amen.**

Minister: Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who desireth not the death of a sinner, but rather that they may turn from their wickedness, and live, hath given power and commandment to his ministers, to declare and pronounce to his people, being penitent, the absolution and remission of their sins.
God pardoneth and absolveth all them that truly repent and unfeignedly believe his holy Gospel.
Wherefore we beseech him to grant us true repentance and his Holy Spirit, that those things may please him which we do at this present, and that the rest of our life hereafter may be pure and holy; so that at the last we may come to his eternal joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Responses are sung.

Minister: O LORD, open thou our lips;
All: **And our mouth shall show forth thy praise.**
Minister: O God, make speed to save us;
All: **O Lord, make haste to help us.**
(please stand)
Minister: Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
All: **as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.**
Minister: Praise ye the Lord;
All: **The Lord's Name be praised.**

Canticle Venite

(remain standing)

*O come, let us sing unto the Lord; let us heartily rejoice in the strength of our salvation.
Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving, and show ourselves glad in him with psalms.
For the Lord is a great God, and a great King above all gods.
In his hand are all the corners of the earth; and the strength of the hills is his also.
The sea is his, and he made it: and his hands prepared the dry land.
O come, let us worship, and fall down, and kneel before the Lord our Maker.
For he is the Lord our God; and we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his hand.
Glory be to the father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.*

Lesson 1 Deuteronomy 18.15-20

The Lord your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among your own people; you shall heed such a prophet. This is what you requested of the Lord your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly when you said: "If I hear the voice of the Lord my God any more, or ever again see this great fire, I will die." Then the Lord replied to me: "They are right in what they have said. I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their own people; I will put my words in the mouth of the prophet, who shall speak to them everything that I command. Anyone who does not heed the words that the prophet shall speak in my name, I myself will hold accountable. But any prophet who speaks in the name of other gods, or who presumes to speak in my name a word that I have not commanded the prophet to speak - that prophet shall die."

Psalm 111

(Congregation remain seated)

I will give thanks unto the Lord with my whole heart,
in the council of the faithful and in the congregation.

The works of the Lord are great, sought out of all them that have pleasure therein.

His work is worthy to be praised and had in honour; and his righteousness endureth for ever.

The merciful and gracious Lord hath so done his marvellous works,
that they ought to be had in remembrance.

He hath given meat unto them that fear him; he shall ever be mindful of his covenant.

He hath showed his people the power of his works, in giving them the heritage of the nations.

The works of his hands are verity and judgement; all his precepts are sure;

They stand fast for ever and ever, and are done in truth and equity.

He sent redemption unto his people;

he hath commanded his covenant for ever; holy and reverend is his Name.

The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom;

a good understanding have all they that do thereafter; his praise endureth for ever.

Lesson II Mark 1.21-28

They went to Capernaum; and when the sabbath came, Jesus entered the synagogue and taught.

They were astounded at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes.

Just then there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit, and he cried out,

"What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are, the Holy One of God." But Jesus rebuked him, saying, "Be silent, and come out of him!"

And the unclean spirit, convulsing him and crying with a loud voice, came out of him. They were all amazed,

and they kept on asking one another, "What is this? A new teaching - with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him."

At once his fame began to spread throughout the surrounding region of Galilee.

Canticle Jubilate in D

George Dyson

O be joyful in the Lord, all ye lands;

serve the Lord with gladness and come before his presence with a song.

Be ye sure that the Lord he is God:

it is he that hath made us and not we ourselves;

we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.

*O go your way into his gates with thanksgiving,
and into his courts with praise.
be thankful unto him and speak good of his name.
For the Lord is gracious, His mercy is everlasting;
and his truth endureth from generation to generation.*

(Please stand)

Minister: I believe in God

All: **the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth: and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried: He descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.**

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Responses are sung.

Minister: The Lord be with you;

All: **And with thy spirit.**

Minister. Let us pray.

(please kneel or sit for prayer)

All: Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

All: **OUR Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive them that trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Amen.**

Minister: O Lord, show thy mercy upon us;

All: **And grant us thy salvation.**

Minister: O Lord, save the King;

All: **And mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.**

Minister: Endue thy Ministers with righteousness;

All: **And make thy chosen people joyful.**

Minister: O Lord, save thy people;

All: **And bless thine inheritance.**

Minister: Give peace in our time, O Lord;

All: **And evermore mightily defend us.**

Minister: O God, make clean our hearts within us;

All: **And take not thy Holy Spirit from us.**

Collect for the Day

O God, who knowest us to be set in the midst of so many and great dangers, that by reason of the frailty of our nature we cannot always stand upright: Grant to us such strength and protection, as may support us in all dangers, and carry us through all temptations; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Second Collect, for Peace.

O God, who art the author of peace and lover of concord, in knowledge of whom standeth our eternal life, whose service is perfect freedom: Defend us thy humble servants in all assaults of our enemies; that we, surely trusting in thy defence, may not fear the power of any adversaries; through the might of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Third Collect, for Grace.

O LORD our heavenly Father, Almighty and everlasting God, who hast safely brought us to the beginning of this day: Defend us in the same with thy mighty power; and grant that this day we fall into no sin, neither run into any kind of danger; but that all our doings may be ordered by thy governance, to do always that is righteous in thy sight; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Anthem **How Lovely are the Messengers**

Felix Mendelssohn

How lovely are the messengers that preach us the gospel of peace.

To all the nations is gone forth the sound of their words, throughout all the lands their glad tidings.

Homily **Canon Paul Walker**

Offertory Hymn 620 **How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds**

St. Peter

An offering plate will be passed during this hymn. Your donation to support St. John's is most welcome.

*1. How sweet the name of Jesus sounds
in a believer's ear!*

*It soothes our sorrows, heals our wounds,
and drives away our fear.*

*2. It makes the wounded spirit whole,
and calms the troubled breast;
'tis manna to the hungry soul,
and to the weary rest.*

*3. Dear name! The rock on which I build,
my shield and hiding place,
my never failing treasury,
filled with boundless stores of grace.*

*4. Jesus, my shepherd, brother, friend,
my prophet, priest, and king,
my Lord, my life, my way, my end,
accept the praise I bring.*

*5. Weak is the effort of my heart,
and cold my warmest thought;
but when I see thee as thou art,
I'll praise thee as I ought.*

Closing Prayers for the church, the community, and the world, and those in need.

(you may kneel or sit)

The Grace

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore. Amen.

Hymn 624 O Thou Who Camest from Above

Hereford

*1. O thou who camest from above,
the pure celestial fire to impart,
kindle a flame of sacred love
on the mean altar of my heart.*

*3. Jesus, confirm my heart's desire
to work and speak and think for thee;
still let me guard the holy fire,
and still stir up thy gift in me.*

*2. There let it for thy glory burn
with inextinguishable blaze,
and trembling to its source return
in humble prayer and fervent praise.*

*4. Ready for all thy perfect will,
my acts of faith and love repeat,
till death thy endless mercies seal
and make the sacrifice complete.*

POSTLUDE

The flowers are to the glory of God.

Coffee, tea, and sweets are served downstairs following the service.

Quartet	Lesley Bouza, Audrey Coates, Quade Nielsen, Paul Genyk-Berezowsky
Greeters	Wendy Donohue and Peter Barr
Readers	Pam Gradwell, Bob Cooper

Events This Week at St. John's

Today

4:00 Evensong with Parish Choir

Monday

2:00 Bible Study (Parish Centre)

6:00 Children's Choir (Parish Centre)

7:00 Bible Study (Portage)

Tuesday

7:30 TRC Reading and Reflection Group (on Zoom)

Wednesday

9:30 Knitters and Quilters

10:00 Holy Communion

Thursday

11:00 Service at Wellington Terrace

7:00 Parish Choir

Friday

10:30 Song Circle

7:30 CONCERT: "House of our Pilgrimage"

Sunday February 4 - Fifth Sunday after Epiphany - Sexagesima

8:00 Holy Communion (BCP)

9:00 Holy Eucharist

11:00 Choral Communion with Parish Choir

St. John's Four Areas of Ministry

Proclaim the Love of Christ - Engage and Involve - Musical Outreach - Open Doors

Rector:	The Rev'd Canon Paul J. Walker	rector.stjohnselora@gmail.com
Director of Music:	Dr. Patrick Murray	music.stjohnselora@gmail.com
Organist:	Jurgen Petrenko	
Sexton and Caretaker:	Garry Cantlon	sexton.stjohnselora@gmail.com
Administration:	Thomas Littlewood	parish.stjohnselora@gmail.com
Honorary Assistants:	Rev'd John Lockyer, Rev'd Judy Steers	

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Follow St. John's Elora on Facebook, Instagram, and YouTube

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Welcome to St. John's Elora

Learn More

To learn more about St. John's through the Pastoral Letter sent from the Rector every Saturday, send an email to rector.stjohnselora@gmail.com

Evensong - TODAY, 4:00 p.m.

The Parish Choir offers a special service of Choral Evensong for Candlemas, 40 days after Christmas.

Concert - FRIDAY February 2, 7:30 p.m.

Anima presents: House of our Pilgrimage. Daniel Cabena, Paul Genyk-Berezowsky (Parish Choir), and Luke Hathoway (poet) offer a program of medieval and modern music with spoken word. Admission by donation at the door (suggested \$30).

Vestry Reports

Please send your annual Vestry Report to Thomas Littlewood at parish.stjohnselora@gmail.com before January 31.

Vestry Meeting of Mission and Ministry

SATURDAY February 24, 10:30 a.m. on Zoom

We gather together for the annual Vestry Meeting on SATURDAY February 24 at 10:30 on Zoom. If you know of someone who does not have access to Zoom, and would like to participate, please let the Rector know.

If you are interested in participating this year at St. John's as a member of Parish Council, Member of Synod, or a Warden, let Jane Houlding or the Rector know.

Parish Council meets with the Rector and Wardens six times a year to review the financial statements and help fulfill the goals of our vision as authorized by the Vestry.

Bible Study - Mondays at 2:00 p.m.

Join Rev'd John Lockyer and others who are exploring themes in the gospel of Mark.

Volunteer Choir - Tuesday at 5:30 p.m.

We rehearse every Tuesday at 5:30 to participate liturgically on Sundays at 9:00 every other week. Contact Jurgen for more information.

TRC Reading and Reflection Group - Tuesday at 7:30 p.m.

Join on Zoom as we continue to reflect and learn about the 94 Calls to Action.

Knitters and Quilters - Wednesday at 9:30 a.m.

Join a group of people who knit, crochet, or simply enjoy being together on Wednesday morning in the Parish Center.

Song Circle - Friday at 10:30 a.m.

Join Stan Litch as he leads an informal time of signing some old tunes on Fridays at 10:30. It's a fun and informal time together of signing and stories. All are welcome.

Compline Services

The choir rehearses at 6:30 on the day of the service. The service begins at 8:00 p.m. and is offered on February 6, March 5, April 9, May 7 and June 4.

Organ Update

Adjusting sound samples and installing new speakers in the organ chamber is the task at present. All the indications so far suggest that Jurgen is quite excited about it, and we trust that when you eventually hear the full new organ, you will be excited too.

Pancake Supper - Tuesday February 13

Are you willing to help offer a pancake supper on Tuesday February 13?

So far we have 2 people to set up in the afternoon and 2 people in the kitchen to cook. Please speak to the Rector if you can participate as kitchen crew, servers or clean up team.

Readers

If you would like to participate as a reader at the 11am service, please contact [Patricia Reimer](#).

2024 Offering Envelopes

Please pick up your box of Offering Envelopes at the back of the church.

If you would like Offering Envelopes please contact Thomas through the office or by email at parish.stjohnselora@gmail.com

World Day of Prayer - Friday March 1

Hosted at St Andrew's Presbyterian Church in Fergus. The service this year is prepared by the women of Palestine, based on Ephesians 4:1-3—"I beg you...bear with one another in love." Please let Thomas know if you wish to participate.

Washrooms

Washrooms are located at the west entrance of the church, downstairs in Thompson Hall, and an accessible washroom is located at the Parish Centre (yellow house east of the church).